



CALPEEK

CALIFORNIA POLITICAL WEEK

P.O. BOX 1468, BEVERLY HILLS, CA 90213 (310) 659-0205
Dick Rosengarten, Publisher

VOL. XVII
No. 4

JAN. 23, 1995

SPEAKERSHIP WAR: HORCHER RECALL COMPLICATES THE SEARCH FOR A NEW ASSEMBLY SPEAKER, BUT DEAL NEAR.

Editor's note: You've read this headline before and just when it looks as though there's going to be a solution, something always seems to sour the deal. Here's the latest, but don't be surprised if it changes...

...All the different sides want a solution and but quick. The voting public won't tolerate too much more of this foolishness. Sources tell CALPEEK that a deal was near around Jan. 17th, but fell apart when the **Horcher Recall** popped up and put a temporary halt to GOPER **Bernie Richter's** drive to win the speakership. Bernie opposes most recalls, but not maverick Paul Horcher's. Thus GOP Assembly Leader **Jim Brulte** is back in the speakership hunt and bargaining again with Demo Assembly Leader **Willie Brown**. Brulte and Brown both have new negotiating teams. Sources won't say what deals are being made, but the Demos will listen to the Brulte plan and then give Richter an opportunity to respond, if he's still interested. Some sources think Richter may now have a few GOP caucus members on his side. If that's true, the pressure is on Brulte...

...As for the recall itself, it's moving along at top speed, but it's possible an election might not take place until mid April at the earliest and perhaps not until June. That really complicates this Speakership War. But recall proponents are confident it will qualify and now Gov. **Pete Wilson** has jumped into the recall with a letter to 60th A.D. GOP voters. As Horcher recall consultant **Wayne Johnson** says, "Time to warm up the White Bronco, Paul." On the other side, the anti-recall campaign has hired consultant **Phil Giarrizzo**. He's a Demo, but think about this: what GOP consultant would work for Paul Horcher? And because it costs tons to mount a defense, anti-recall forces are hosting a \$1,000 per person reception for Horcher, 5:30 p.m., Jan. 31 at The Sterling Hotel in Sacto. Some 32 Demo

Assemblymembers are part of the host cmt., along with the CA Trial Lawyers, CA School Employees Assn., CTA, CA Professional Firefighters, AFL-CIO, CA Applicants' Attys. Assn., CSEA and the SEIU...

...FYI: The best quote about the how history will remember GOP Assembly Leader **Jim Brulte**, who is hoping to be Speaker, is by Orange Co. consultant **Harvey Englander**. "*Brulte is like Moses. He leads his people to the promised land, but won't be allowed to enter.*" History hasn't been written -- just yet. Stay tuned...

35TH S.D. SPECIAL: IT'S GOP BLOOD BATH TIME.

Editor's note: Gov. Pete Wilson has set March 14 for a special election to replace **Marian Bergeson**(R-Newport Beach) in the State Senate's 35th District. Here is our first report & analysis...

...The 35th S.D. takes in the coastal areas of Orange Co. The 35th has a 53% GOP registration, meaning Demos need not apply. While there may be other candidates, there are only 3 that count: Assemblymembers **Doris Allen** of Cypress and **Ross Johnson** of Fullerton (who moved into the 35th S.D. to run); and former Assemblyman **Gil Ferguson** of Newport Beach. Sources say that it will be one of these three who replaces Bergeson...

...In all likelihood, this will be a very low voter turnout special, similar to the 1991 special to replace former State Sen. **John Seymour**(R-Anaheim). The turnout in that special was just 14%, with 4 major GOP candidates. The winner was **John Lewis**(R), who amassed about 7,800 absentee votes and 5,495 votes on election day. Absentee ballots & independent expenditures will be critical in this special...

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...The special has already turned **nasty**, with Johnson going after Ferguson with a solid hit piece, tying Ferguson to maverick Assemblyman Paul Horcher and Demo Assembly Leader Willie Brown. For those who have been following the Speakership War, Ferguson had a chat with Horcher in which Ferguson supposedly told Horcher **not** to trust GOP Leader Jim Brulte. Did this cause Horcher to vote for Brown over Brulte? Probably not, but the Horcher/Ferguson talk was widely reported in the news media. The bottomline is that the story made Gil look bad and Johnson struck first...

...But do hit pieces work for Johnson when he's got so little name ID? That's the question some are asking. And does a battle between the two hardline conservative men help the third leading contender, Doris Allen? Some sources think the more that Ross and Gil battle, the better it is for Doris. And some CALPEEK sources rate Allen as the favorite...

...And for those who think Doris can't hold her own, remember what happened when Nolan Frizzelle and Tom Mays were thrown into the same district with Doris in 1992. She's still here. Allen, like Ferguson, has built up a solid base of support in her half of the 35th and she's one of the few GOPers who has CTA support --- which makes her somewhat suspect among some of her more conservative colleagues. Like Gil Ferguson, Allen is independent and won't always do what the "*Orange Co. Boys*" want...

...FYI: CALPEEK sources say the CTA has surveyed the 35th S.D. and polling data shows that at the present time this is a battle between Ferguson and Allen, with Johnson a distant third. Of the two frontrunners, Ferguson has about 70% name ID (Allen at 50%), but Ferguson has high negatives. However, Johnson may end up with more money and that translates into direct mail, which can quickly build name ID. But if the election were held this week, most sources would give the edge to Ferguson. Stay tuned...

HARRY TRUMAN CELEBRATION AT TOWN HALL.

Clifton Truman Daniels, grandson of the late president, and Prof. Robert Ferrell, a Truman biographer, will discuss the former president with a presentation at the public issues forum of Town Hall/L.A., 12:30 p.m., luncheon, Jan. 25, Sheraton Grande Hotel. For info call (213)628-8141...

CAMPAIGN '96: MORE NAMES ADDED TO RACES.

Editor's note: When we started writing this continuing column a few weeks ago, we didn't realize there'd be so much interest in the 1996 lineup. We opened up a *can of rumors*. But just keep those faxes coming on who's in and who's out. This week: updates...

- Perhaps the most *interesting rumor* we've heard is that while GOP Assembly Leader Jim Brulte of Rancho Cucamonga will be running in 1996 for State Sen. Bill Leonard's 31st S.D. job, Leonard may want to run for Brulte's 63rd A.D. seat. Leonard was in the assembly before, but sources say he'd still get a full 3 terms...

- Another former *Assembler*, Phil Wyman of Bakersfield, is said to be looking at Assemblyman Trice Harvey's 32nd A.D. seat. As for Harvey, CALPEEK said he was looking at Don Roger's 17th S.D. seat. *Scratch that*. Harvey is more interested in the 20th C.D. seat of U.S. Rep. Cal Dooley(D). Assemblyman Pete Knight(R-Palmdale) is the favorite to take the Rogers' seat...

- In the Long Beach area, add the name of Councilman Les Robbins to the list of Demos looking at the 27th S.D. job currently held by GOPER Bob Beverly. Robbins would be a very strong candidate, especially with his law & order background...

- In L.A. Co.'s 36th C.D., currently held by U.S. Rep. Jane Harman(D), sources say former GOP controller candidate John Morris is looking. If he does run, he'd give Susan Brooks(R) some sleepless nights or bad dreams. He's got deep pockets. In the 53rd A.D. of Assemblywoman Debra Bowen(D), the GOP name that keeps coming up is El Segundo Mayor Pro Tem Liam Weston. GOPER Julian Sirull would like another shot at Bowen in '96. In the 52nd A.D., the seat currently occupied by Assemblyman Willard Murray Jr.(D), add the Demo names of Carl Washington, a deputy to L.A. Co. Sup. Yvonne Burke; and Steve Bradford, a Gardena activist...

- In the San Jose area, add the name of Elaine K. White to the list of Demos who wants to run for something. First choice might be her husband's seat. She's married to State Sen. Al Alquist(D-13), but other sources think she might run for 22nd A.D. seat of John Vasconcellos, who along with Dom Cortese, are

said to be looking at the Alquist seat. If White were to go for Vasco's assembly seat, she'd have lots of company, including Santa Clara Mayor Judy Nadler, San Jose Councilwoman Trixie Johnson and activist Pat Castillo. Those Demos looking at Cortese's assembly seat in the 23rd A.D. are Pete Carrillo, an aide to Blanco Alvarado, who was just appointed to the Santa Clara Bd. of Supes; gay community college trustee Ken Yeager; and perhaps Santa Clara Co. Sup. Mike Honda. Stay tuned...

SUSAN BROOKS FILES PAPERS WITH HOUSE TO OVERTURN ELECTION OF U.S. REP. JANE HARMAN.

Editor's note: On Nov. 8th, it looked as though GOP congressional candidate Susan Brooks of Rancho Palos Verdes had defeated freshman Demo U.S. Rep. Jane Harman by some 93 votes. But when the late absentee and provisional ballots were finally added up, Harman won with an 812 vote edge. Now Brooks has challenged those results. Here's our brief report...

...Brooks filed papers with the House Oversight Cmt. on or about Friday, Jan. 13th. In her petition, Brooks asks for a new special election because of what she says were 2,000 questionable votes cast in the 36th C.D. on Nov. 8th. Brooks' allegations are based on research by a group called The Cmt. on Election Integrity, chaired by El Segundo Mayor Pro Tem Liam Weston...

...Couple of problems for Brooks. In early December, with some preliminary data from this group and other sources, she went to court to stop L.A. Co. from certifying the election. She lost. Second, as of CALPEEK's deadline, the data purporting to show irregularities *had not been given* to the L.A. Co. Registrar, thus there's no way for the proper authorities to check Weston's findings. And third, there is some question as to whether Brooks filed the papers in time with the U.S. House...

...According to the SOS's office, challenges have to be filed within 30 days of certification. The SOS's office also said that the L.A. Co. Board of Supes was the certifying body and they certified the election on Dec. 6th --- meaning that perhaps Brooks was 6-7 days late in forwarding her paperwork to the U.S. House. But this is a question which attorneys will have to settle. Harman's legal team is sure to release a response soon. Stay tuned...

L.A. MUNI ELECTION: 7 INITIATIVES ON BALLOT.

Editor's note: In addition to the council elections, L.A. City voters will face 7 amendments to the city charter, placed on the ballot by the council. Here's a quick rundown on the propositions and a brief update on the council elections...

...Of the 7 propositions, there is only one with any degree of controversy. It's the same measure placed on the ballot numerous times before --- at least 4 times in the past 14 years. And every time voters have rejected it. This is the proposal to exempt most all of the city's 38 general department managers from ***civil service protection***. The exceptions: the PD chief, director of the city's ethics commission and the council's chief legislative analyst. Last time it was placed on the ballot, backers had a tough time raising money. And **unless** someone (read that as L.A. Mayor Richard Riordan) steps in who can help raise a campaign war chest of at least \$100,000, this measure will be doomed again. That's the minimum needed in light of this proposal's past trouble with L.A. City voters...

...There's also a proposition to hire an inspector general to oversee the city's system for handling ***police misconduct cases*** --- a recommendation left over from the Christopher Commission. And there's a measure backed by Councilman Joel Wachs to overhaul and modernize the city's outdated ***purchasing system***. Again, both initiatives don't appear to have any major financial support and that could spell trouble. The other propositions deal with the ***city's pension fund***. Important stuff in light of Orange Co.'s problems, but don't look for full-blown campaigns on behalf of these measures unless some special interests pop for the money...

...FYI: Filing for council races closed on Jan. 17th. Although all the even-numbered incumbents have challengers, only 2 councilmembers have drawn what most insiders would consider *serious opposition*. 10th Dist. Councilman Nate Holden has drawn 6 challengers, including attorney Stan Sanders. In the 8th District, incumbent Mark Ridley-Thomas has drawn 5 rivals, including Rod Wright, a top aide to U.S. Rep. Maxine Waters(D-L.A.). Wright was in a runoff with MR-T in 1991. Very interesting. Stay tuned...

CALPEEK's INFOBAHN: POLITICAL SHORT TAKES.

Editor's note: Here are a few political items worth noting...

- **CCRI Update** - CALPEEK sources say GOP pollster Arnie Steinberg will have a major role in the upcoming drive to qualify the CA Civil Rights Initiative, the proposal to kill affirmative action programs in Calif. Sources say co-authors Tom Wood and Glynn Custred are debating the *pros & cons* of a March '96 vs. a November '96 ballot date. There are solid cases to be made for either date...

- **The Mountjoy Conundrum** - Despite political moves in both the Assembly and State Senate to get a quick fix, public policy wonks say CA's election laws are in need of repair -- all because of "Assembler" Richard Mountjoy (R-Arcadia), who by a glitch in the law, was elected Nov. 8th to both his 59th A.D. post and to the 29th S.D. in a special election. Under normal circumstances, Mountjoy would have resigned his 59th A.D. seat after winning the senate post, thus allowing a special election to replace him. That didn't happen because of the protracted Speakership War and that's why policy wonks believe the system needs a fix. What do they want? Perhaps a *resign & run rule*. GOPers who are on hold for the 59th A.D. because of this glitch include Citrus Community College trustee Gary Woods, Duarte Councilwoman Ginny Joyce, Arcadia Councilman Bob Margett, ex Glendora Councilman Bob Kuhn, Glendora Councilwoman Lois Shade and maybe ex Covina Councilman Chris Lancaster...

- **Michael Huffington In Playboy** - No, he's not going to be the March *centerfold*. The magazine says there will be an article by Bob Sipchen about the legal battle underway between new age guru John-Roger and ex cult member Peter McWilliams --- and how Huffington got caught in the middle. Will this be better than the Vanity Fair article from 1994???

PATT MORRISON SPEAKS TO WIPA ON JAN. 26.

L.A. Times columnist Patt Morrison will address members of Women In Public Affairs, 11:30 a.m. reception, 12 noon lunch, Jan. 26, Hotel Inter-Continental, downtown L.A. For info call Leila Campos at Gannett Outdoor Co. (213)276-7206...

L.A. SUP. YAROSLAVSKY TO ADDRESS PA OFFICERS.

L.A. Co. Sup. Zev Yaroslavsky will address members of the L.A. Public Affairs Officers Assn., 11:30 a.m., Jan. 30, Sheraton Grande Hotel, L.A. For info & RSVPs, call Debby Ishihara at MCA (818)777-3591...

NEW JOBS, ADDRESSES AND PERSONNEL NOTICES.

Editor's note: Here are some items to mark down in your notebook...

- Chris Micheli, former general counsel to the CA Mfg. Assn., has joined the firm of Carpenter Snodgrass & Assoc. in Sacto...

- Steve Kamp, former legal counsel to Florida Congressman Peter Deutsh, has been hired as legal counsel to BoE member Brad Sherman (D-L.A.)...

- Fundraiser/event coordinator Diane P. Scott has closed her campaign firm in San Diego effective Dec. 31, 1994. Future plans TBA...

- Campaign consultant Dave Gilliard moves his office to 921 11th Street, Ste. 600, Sacramento, CA 95814. New phone (916)444-1502...

- L.A.-based PR/PA exec. Carl Terzian has been elected to the Boards of Directors of The Eras Center, Senior Health & Peer Counseling and the Western L.A. Council of the Boy Scouts of America...

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